GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2956
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Delay in Scholarship Disbursal
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance given to States for the implementation of meritcum-means scholarship schemeÂ¸ State-wise;
(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is inordinate delay in disbursing the scholarship amount during the last three years and the current year;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor year-wise and State/UT-wise;
(d) whether there has been delay in disbursing scholarship amounts to newly registered students and renewed students from the State of Kerala during the academic year 2015-16; and
(e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a good number of students could not enter their application in the respective category due to the online system failure and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) The Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Scheme is being administered by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. From the year 2014-15, the Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme for the minorities are being disbursed under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode and the scholarship amount is credited directly in the bank account of beneficiary. The State-wise details of the scholarships disbursed for the year 2015-16 is at Annexure. The States/UTs are given administrative expenses for implementation of this scheme.
(b) to (d) Till the year 2014-15, there was no delay in disbursal of scholarships. However, during 2015-16, due to some technical glitches on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP), delay in receipt of response from the States/UTs and some problems in the bank accounts given by beneficiary, there was some delay.
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(e) It is informed that all the three Scholarship Schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) viz. Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes are being implemented through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP), since 2015-16, as part of a policy decision to make the process of applying of scholarships more transparent and ensure disbursement to genuine students by avoiding duplications, etc. Although, there were some technical glitches in NSP during 2015-16 and 2016-17, 2,62,829 and 2,80,647 online applications were filed on the portal during 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively in respect of Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme.